

Application No.: 10/691,563

Docket No.: 17957-US-PA
Customer No.:31561

In The Drawings:

Please amend Figure 1 as shown in the attached amended drawing. A legend of "Prior Art" is added to designate the drawing as required by the Examiner.

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A legend of "Prior Art" is added to designate the drawing Figure 1 as required by the Examiner, thus the drawings should be acceptable.

Claim Rejection -35USC§102

Claim 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asano et al. (US 6008582).

In response to the rejection to Claim 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asano et al. (US 6008582), Applicant has amended claim 1, and hereby otherwise traverses this rejection. As such, Applicant submits that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 1, as amended, recites *in part*:

Claim 1 (currently amended) An electrode substrate ..., comprising:

a pixel-defining layer defining a plurality of pixel areas configured either on the substrate or on the first electrode, the pixel-defining layer comprising at least one sidewall substantially perpendicular to the substrate, the at least one

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sidewall having a pattern comprising a plurality of strips, wherein the strips are configured substantially parallel with the substrate

Applicant submits that such an electrode substrate as set forth in claim 1 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Asano et al. '582 or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Asano et al. '582 fails to disclose, teach or suggest a "pixel-defining layer having at least one sidewall having a pattern comprising a plurality of strips, wherein the strips are configured substantially parallel with the substrate" that is required for the present electrode substrate as set forth in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Claim 1-6 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hashimoto et al. (US 20040017152).

In response to the rejection to Claim 1-6 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hashimoto et al. (US 20040017152), Applicant has amended claim 1, and hereby otherwise traverses this rejection. As such, Applicant submits that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

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Hashimoto et al. '152 fails to disclose, teach or suggest a "pixel-defining layer having at least one sidewall having a pattern comprising a plurality of strips, wherein the strips are configured substantially parallel with the substrate" (emphasis added). The irregularities 9 as set forth in Hashimoto et al. '152 is configured as a part of the substrate 1 (see FIG. 8). On the contrary, the sidewall is configured as a part of the pixel-defining layer as set forth in claim 1 according to the present invention. Further, the irregularities 9 as set forth in Hashimoto et al. '152 is configured along the surface of the substrate 1 (see FIG. 8). On the contrary, the sidewall is substantially perpendicular to the substrate as set forth in claim 1 according to the present invention.

In a similar manner, claim 17, recites *in part*:

Claim 17 (currently amended) An organic electroluminescent panel, comprising:
a substrate;

...a pixel-defining layer defining a plurality of pixel areas configured either on the substrate or on the first electrode, the pixel-defining layer comprising at least one sidewall substantially perpendicular to the substrate, the at least one sidewall having a pattern comprising a plurality of strips, wherein the strips are configured substantially parallel with the substrate...

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Applicant submits that such an organic electroluminescent panel as set forth in claim 17 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Hashimoto et al. '152 or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Hashimoto et al. '152 fails to disclose, teach or suggest a "pixel-defining layer having at least one sidewall having a pattern comprising a plurality of strips, wherein the strips are configured substantially parallel with the substrate" that is required by the present organic electroluminescent panel as set forth in claim 17 (emphasis added). The irregularities 9 as set forth in Hashimoto et al. '152 is configured as a part of the substrate 1 (see FIG. 8). On the contrary, the sidewall is configured as a part of the pixel-defining layer as set forth in claim 17 according to the present invention. Further, the irregularities 9 as set forth in Hashimoto et al. '152 is configured along the surface of the substrate 1 (see FIG. 8). On the contrary, the sidewall is substantially perpendicular to the substrate as set forth in claim 17 according to the present invention.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 17 are submitted to be novel, unobvious, and patentable over Asano et al. '582 and Hashimoto et al. '152, and the rejections should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection -35USC§103

Claims 7, 8, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto et al. as applied to claims 1 and 17 above.

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If independent claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record, then its dependent claims 2-8 are allowable as a matter of law, because these dependent claims contain all features of their respective independent claim 1. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

If independent claim 17 is allowable over the prior art of record, then its dependent claims 19-21 are allowable as a matter of law, because these dependent claims contain all features of their respective independent claim 1. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

New added claims

Claims 22 and 23 are added hereby. Claims 22 and 23 are fully supported by the specification and are novel, unobvious, and patentable over Asano et al. '582 and Hashimoto et al. '152 for the reasons as set forth above.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-8, 17-21, and the newly added claims 22, 23 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

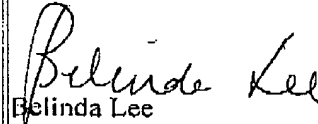
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Respectfully submitted,


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